

BUDGET / FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, September 21, 2015

Oliver Administration Building

Present

Subcommittee: Marjorie McBride, Chair; John Bento and William O'Dell

School Committee, Administration and Staff: John Saviano, Mario Andrade, Superintendent; Pauline Silva, Director of Administration & Finance; George Simmons, Director of Facilities; Amy Bratsos, Melissa Cicillini, Sheila Ellsworth and Maria Pierce

Marj M. called the meeting to order at 6:15 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Bill O. made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 17, 2015 and August 24, 2015 meetings; seconded by John B. The motion passed unanimously.

FACILITIES FOCUS

MHHS Field

Two weeks ago, George S. met with David Potter, Landscape Architect Engineer, PARE Engineering, to go through Phase 1 of the MHHS field design for the purpose of prioritizing in order to redesign the bid.

George S. stated that at a future time, the School Committee can review any items that were removed from the original Phase 1 bid to make a determination on whether those projects could be added as alternates to Phase 1. Mario A. added that only the redesign of the Phase 1 bid is being considered at this time.

Hugh Cole Sunshade

George S. reported that the Hugh Cole sunshade was installed last week and is ready for inspection.

Small Truck Bid

George S. reported that he and Pauline S. have not had an opportunity to discuss the specific requirements for a small truck which would be used by facilities personnel.

Marj M. stated that the Small Truck Bid was placed on the agenda as a “placeholder” until information can be provided concerning the small truck requirements.

Asset Protection Plan – HVAC Systems

Marj M. asked whether it would be possible to add the AC units to the roof when the boilers are changed at the high school. George S. responded that he spoke with the engineering firm who are in the process of making a determination on the cost difference between decentralizing the boilers or adding the roof top units. George S. commented that any decisions to that end would need to go through the District's architect, SMMA. Pauline S. added that this type of upgrade is an approved health and safety repair project as determined by the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE).

Pauline S. explained the changes in rate of reimbursement for RIDE approved repair projects from the old school housing aid formula to the new school housing aid formula. Under the new school housing aid formula, reimbursement could be realized the same year the repair project is completed which could help offset the cash outflow.

Pauline S. reported that the heating plant and underground tank removal at MHHS, which projects are part of the FY16 Asset Protection Plan, have already been submitted to RIDE and approved.

Mario A. stated that if the HVAC system is brought in as a second project at the high school, it will need to be approved by RIDE before bringing the Building Committee back into the process.

Pauline S. stated that, moving forward, the FY17 repair projects

submitted to RIDE will include the roof top AC units for all schools. Marj M. stated that if the roof top AC units are approved by RIDE, she will look to Pauline S. for an explanation of cash flow management before presenting to the School Committee for their approval.

Pauline S. explained how the health and safety repair projects were prioritized.

Marj M. asked Pauline S. to provide a report for the October Budget/Facilities Subcommittee meeting regarding the HVAC systems, air quality and the state repair projects approval process.

Mario A. stated, for the record, that all the schools within the Bristol Warren Regional School District have safe air quality. The work being proposed for the HVAC systems and air quality are upgrades for improvement. Children are not currently in a harmful situation.

A short discussion on the feasibility of flex fuel options was also discussed.

Colt School Wall

George S. shared details regarding the materials which will be used for a small retaining wall that will be installed at Colt School to prevent further washout. George S. commented that he is happy with the look of the materials and feels they will blend in aesthetically with the architecture at Colt School. George S. explained where the

new retaining wall would be built.

George S. reported that an investigation is ongoing to determine the cause of the wall that fell over at Colt School.

Goose Droppings

George S. reported that the issue of Canadian Geese congregating on the grounds has predominantly been a problem at the high school and Guiteras. The grounds at both locations have been treated twice this year with a concentrated grape juice which is safe for children to play on. He commented that once a heavy rain comes, the grape juice concentrate washes away.

{George S. left at 7:00 p.m.}

BUDGET FOCUS

FY15 Budget

Pauline S. reported that the audit field work began today. She does not anticipate any audit adjustments. Pauline S. commented there is nothing remarkable to report thus far.

FY16 Budget

Pauline S. highlighted the dollar amounts from the FY16 Reconciliation of Revenue to JFC Maximum Expenditure Level chart.

A discussion ensued regarding procedural discrepancies between

past practice and current practice of the School Committee budget approval timeline. Mario A. responded that the current practice aligns with the Budget Deadlines and Schedules Policy (DBC) which states that the “School Committee votes final, “balanced” budget in July or August.”

MOTION: Bill O. made a motion to recommend approval of the FY16 budget in the amount of \$54,336,742 to the full School Committee; seconded by John B. The motion passed unanimously.

Next meeting – Monday, October 19, 2015

Adjournment:

MOTION: At 7:14 p.m. Bill O. made a motion to adjourn the meeting; John B. seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

kd